

COUNCIL DOCKET OF

Oct 21, 2008☐ Supplemental ☐ Adoption ☐ Consent ☒ Unanimous Consent Rules Committee Consultant Review

R -

O -

Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment

☒ Reviewed ☐ Initiated By NR&C On 6/20/07 Item No. 4

RECOMMENDATION TO:

Approve the Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment as a guidance document for City activities in the watershed and schedule it for City Council approval by September 4, 2007. Direct the City Attorney to draft a resolution of support for City Council approval and to approve the draft resolution supporting the application by San Diego Earthworks for state grant funds to remove invasive exotic plants from the Rose Creek Watershed and schedule the resolution for City Council approval by September 4, 2007. Direct the City Attorney to revise the draft resolution into the appropriate format for City Council approval.

VOTED YEA: Frye, Faulconer, Maienschein, Hueso

VOTED NAY:

NOT PRESENT:

CITY CLERK: Please reference the following reports on the City Council Docket:

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL NO.

INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST NO.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE CONSULTANT ANALYSIS NO.

OTHER:

City Attorney's Draft Resolution; Rose Creek Watershed Alliance's 6/20/08, PowerPoint

COUNCIL COMMITTEE CONSULTANT



000615

DRAFT RESOLUTION NUMBER R- _____

ADOPTED ON _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION BY SAN DIEGO EARTHWORKS FOR STATE GRANT FUNDS TO REMOVE INVASIVE EXOTIC PLANTS FROM THE ROSE CREEK WATERSHED.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, as follows:

1. That the City Council supports the application by San Diego Earthworks to the Wildlife Conservation Board for grant funds to remove invasive exotic plants from the Rose Creek watershed consistent with the Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment.
2. That the removal areas include sites where invasive exotic plants are negatively impacting the biological resources and public safety in the watershed and where removal of invasive exotic plants will enhance the biological values of the watershed and improve public safety.
3. That the City Council certifies that it has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the removal sites on City-owned lands during the term of the agreement.
4. That the City Council authorizes a right of entry permit to San Diego Earthworks to carry out this project on city-owned lands.
5. That the City Council understands and agrees to the special and general provisions contained in the sample grant agreement that pertain to city-owned lands.

APPROVED: MIKE AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By _____

Passed and adopted by the Council of the City of San Diego on _____
by the following vote:

YEAS:

NEAS:

DATE: January 9, 2008

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Ann Van Leer for the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance

SUBJECT: Recommended Amendments to the draft Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment

The Rose Creek Watershed Alliance (Alliance) presents these recommended amendments to the draft Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment (Assessment) for your consideration. The Alliance is a 13-member stakeholders group formed to help guide the Assessment. Alliance members include public and non-profit organizations working to improve the quality of life in the Rose Creek Watershed, which includes most of MCAS Miramar and parts of Clairemont, University City, Pacific Beach and Mission Bay.

Background:

The watershed contains great natural beauty, recreational opportunities and biological diversity. Unfortunately, the watershed suffers from many of the same ills as other watersheds at the edge where wild lands meet urban development. Invasive non-native species have overrun many areas, and urban problems such as crime and vagrancy are acute in the lower watershed. While the overall health of the watershed is better than many urban-wildland watersheds in Southern California, portions of lower Rose Creek, in particular, are unhealthy, unsafe and a detriment to water quality in Mission Bay and the ocean. Approving the Assessment, and working to implement its recommendations, will help bring about the changes this watershed needs.

This Assessment includes recommendations to enhance the watershed, to make it a safer and healthier place for residents and visitors alike. We hope the Assessment will engage and inform the public, guide volunteers and professionals, and build policy level support within the appropriate public and private agencies to enhance and preserve the watershed.

Appreciation:

We are gratefully for the support, advice and guidance we have received from Councilmembers and City staff especially Councilmembers Frye, Peters and Faulconer, Park and Recreation Director Stacey LoMedico and her staff and Northern Division Police Chief Boyd Long and his staff especially officers Conti and Vinson and the officers of the HOT team.

We know there are many pressing concerns before the City and are appreciative of the time staff took to review the Assessment and make comments; the suggestions were helpful and we have incorporated them into these amendments. On approval of the Assessment by the full City Council, an updated final Assessment will be created that will be made available to the City and posted at www.rosecreekwatershed.org. Our hope is the City and other entities, private and public, will use the Assessment as a guidance document for activities in the Rose Creek Watershed.

Our suggested amendments are organized below into two attachments that follow: Policy Amendment and Minor Amendments. Thank you for your support of the Rose Creek Watershed.

Sincerely,

Convenor, for San Diego Earthworks	Chair, Clairemont Mesa Planning Group
Chair, Friends of Rose Creek	Chair, Nobel Recreation Council
Executive Director, Friends of Rose Canyon	Chair, Friends of Stevenson Canyon
Chair, Marian Bear Natural Park Committee	Executive Director San Diego County Bicycle Coalition
Chair, Rose Canyon Recreational Council	Executive Director, Discover Pacific Beach

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Chair, Clairemont Town Council	Chair, Mission Bay Park Committee
Executive Director, San Diego Audubon	Chair, Pacific Beach Planning Group

ATTACHMENT 1
ROSE CREEK WATERSHED OPPORTUNITIES ASSESSMENT:
PROPOSED POLICY AMENDMENT:

Discussion:

The draft Assessment includes a recommendation, 2.1, to encourage pro-active conservation in the watershed including the creation of a Conservation Bank to restore watershed lands proactively and at watershed scale. Conversations with City staff regarding this item have illuminated concerns that the City should first revise its policies regarding the restoration of City-owned lands, especially the impact of restoration on the City's future needs for mitigation. We understand the City's concerns and are in agreement that these are important policy questions that require additional consideration.

The goal of this recommendation was to encourage discussion and, we hoped, action on large scale restoration of City and other watershed lands including urban canyons like Rose and San Clemente. That policy discussion has sincerely begun and its resolution will have potentially wide positive implications for other City-owned lands in all watersheds and for enhancement of the MSCP. This discussion is better held with consideration of all City lands and accordingly, we recommend removal of the current text in Section 2.1.2 and replacement with the following text. In addition, the Supplemental text included in 4.2 will be updated to reflect this revised language.

New Section 2.1, Recommendations for Pro-active Conservation in the Rose Creek Watershed

- Work with the City of San Diego and other public agencies to implement policies that will encourage the comprehensive restoration and management of watershed lands for conservation and other public purposes.
- Pilot projects in the Rose Creek Watershed that will result in the comprehensive restoration and management of watershed lands.
- Assign one City department lead responsibility for coordinating all City activities in the Rose Creek Watershed.

Most of the undeveloped land that is the focus of the Assessment is publicly owned. The largest land owner in the watershed is the military which owns MCAS Miramar. The use of that land is governed by the military; the natural resources of the base are overseen by the base's Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP). The primary purpose of the INRMP is to integrate Marine Corps Air Station Miramar's land use needs, in support of the military mission, with the management and conservation of natural resources. The plan covers the entire base and the military is currently pro-actively comprehensively managing the natural resources of the base.

In contrast, there are multiple public agencies, with various missions, that own the watershed lands outside MCAS Miramar. For those undeveloped watershed land areas outside MCAS Miramar, the largest property owner is the City of San Diego. The City's ownership and responsibilities to the watershed are split between multiple departments

and divisions including Park and Recreation, Streets, Storm Water Pollution Prevention and Metropolitan Wastewater. Park and Recreation owns and manages the natural open space parks in the upper watershed including San Clemente (Marian Bear) and Rose and Mission Bay Park in the lower watershed. Streets Division owns and manages the flood control corridor that ties the upper watershed's open space parks to Mission Bay Park. The City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Division has responsibilities for implementation of the Municipal Storm Water Permit and enforcement of laws to prevent and prohibit runoff from storm water from polluting creeks, bays and the ocean, including the Rose and San Clemente creeks and Mission Bay. The Metropolitan Wastewater Department has responsibilities for the wastewater distribution system that uses the Rose Creek Watershed to transport wastewater for treatment and disposal.

Two other public agencies own important watershed lands. Caltrans owns the freeway rights of ways for highways 5 and 52. Also, North County Transit District (NCTD) owns the railroad line corridor and rights of way that largely parallels Rose Creek through the watershed.

In contrast to MCAS Miramar, which is actively and comprehensively managing its ownership of natural lands in the watershed, other than City Park and Recreation lands, the other public lands in the Rose Creek Watershed are managed, if at all, in isolation. In some parts of the watershed, such as the City, Caltrans and NCTD-owned section that connects the two upper watershed open space parks with Mission Bay Park; there is a suite of public problems including infestations of non-native invasive species which are increasing fire risk, reducing flood carrying capacity and reducing habitat for native species. Those same areas have included, at times, illegal encampments leading to water pollution, trash accumulation, graffiti and use of the creek as a base for illegal activities elsewhere. A more comprehensive approach to managing these areas is required.

New Section 2.2.1 Implement Policies to Encourage Comprehensive Restoration and Management of Watershed Lands

Unfortunately, the problems of the Rose Creek Watershed are not unique. Wherever responsibilities are split between multiple owners and multiple departments and divisions, comprehensive natural resources management on a watershed scale is unlikely *unless* actions are taken to make watershed protection a priority. The first action that should occur is the development of policies to encourage comprehensive management of watershed resources, both MSCP and non-MSCP lands, in watersheds like Rose Creek. Those policies should encourage intra-governmental cooperation between City of San Diego divisions and departments and inter-governmental cooperation between the City of San Diego, Caltrans, NCTD and other watershed property owners. Such policies should encourage partnerships with other governmental and non-governmental agencies to help extend public agency resources which have been reduced by funding cutbacks in recent years.

New Section 2.1.2 Pilot Projects in the Rose Creek Watershed that will result in the Comprehensive Restoration and Management of Watershed Lands

The Rose Creek Watershed is a perfect venue to pilot projects to encourage new approaches to comprehensive restoration and management of urban watersheds. Relatively small at 37 square miles, a large part of the watershed, on MCAS Miramar, is already under active management. Remaining undeveloped areas are largely in public ownership with the two main open space canyons owned by Park and Recreation, included in the MSCP. While problems exist, especially in the lower watershed, they could be addressed with focused attention by the governmental entities and public and private partners to great benefit, both for the local public in enhanced water quality, reduced fire risk and decreased crime and for the wildlife that live in the watershed. Additional benefactors are the 15 million plus people that visit Mission Bay each year and swim in its waters.

New Section 2.1.3 Assign One City department Lead Responsibility for Coordinating City activities in the Rose Creek Watershed; Comprehensively Manage Public Lands

The function of the watershed does not change when you leave one ownership and enter another but currently the on-the-ground-physical condition of the watershed does change because of inconsistent management practices. Better coordination between City of San Diego departments and divisions and other watershed property owners such as Caltrans and NCTD, and private owners, could result in more comprehensive and effective implementation of governmental plans and programs in the Rose Creek Watershed. One coordinating department, and Park and Recreation is suggested, would be able to help facilitate more strategic and comprehensive actions in the watershed.

**ATTACHMENT 2
ROSE CREEK WATERSHED OPPORTUNITIES ASSESSMENT:
PROPOSED MINOR AMENDMENTS:**

Proposed Changes to Recommendations' Section

Introduction to Action Recommendations

It will be noted that all City departments with management responsibilities within Rose Creek watershed have budget and staffing issues.

2.2.1 Recommendations for Enhancing the Connection to Mission Bay

It will be noted that the area referenced in this section are currently under a lease agreement that does not terminate until 2017.

2.2.5 Recommendations for Land Management and Ownership

It will be noted that the City has approved MSCP land acquisition areas and these areas would have to be added to the list if they contribute to the MHPA preserve.

2.2.7 Recommendations for Environmental Education

It will be noted that it's important to coordinate environmental education efforts, including those of the City (which can include multiple departments) and those of other municipalities in the region.

2.3.2 Recommendations to Assess Potential Effects on Cultural Resources by other actions

It will be noted that city departments are required to conduct cultural resource assessments for habitat restoration projects. If the project has the potential to impact cultural resources, they are required to mitigate those potential impacts through monitoring, testing, or data recovery as necessary. It will also be noted that any signs on City Park land must be approved by the Park and Recreation Department.

2.4 Recommendations for Public Safety

Recommendation 2.4.1.1 will be updated to include the brush management section of the open space division, which does do on the ground brush management of City owned lands within open space. The last sentence of the second paragraph should be updated to read "Brush management on private property, shall be performed consistent with City regulations and standards."

2.5 Recommendations for Recreational Trails

It will be noted that new trails should be analyzed within the Trails Master Plan and are subject to staffing and funds for implementation and management, maintenance and enforcement.

2.5.2 Recommendations for Improving Access within the Open Space System

It will be noted that MWW's Long Term Access Plan for San Clemente Canyon has been reviewed and approved. The plan for Rose Canyon is currently being prepared.

2.5.3 Recommendations for Creating Regional Recreation Connections

It will be noted that the Boat and Ski Club lease agreement referenced in 2.5.3.C.2 is on holdover.

It will be noted that the area referenced in section 2.5.3.C.2 is listed in the Mission Bay Master Plan Update as the De Anza Special Study Area and the Master Plan Update suggests that the area might be used as a new location for an RV and campground.

It will be noted that use of pervious materials for trail improvements, where feasible, will allow for infiltration of runoff into the ground and reduce impervious surface in the watershed.

2.6.1 Recommendations for Hydrology and Hydraulics

It will be noted that this work will be coordinated with similar efforts being implemented by the municipalities in the region per the Municipal Storm Water Permit (i.e., Hydromodification Management Plan).

Other Sections

Proposed changes to Watershed Overview Section

3.3.6 Impervious Surfaces

It will be noted that infiltration projects (which the City is currently in the process of piloting) throughout the watershed, where feasible, may help meet water quality goals.

3.5.2.6 Park Accessibility

It will be noted that the official use of University City HS can not be endorsed by the City as a designated parking lot for the canyon without a joint use agreement.

3.8.1 Sewer Overflows

Page 3-54, 3.8.1 – Sewer Overflows – In addition to the information provided on the number of sewer flows though 1997, the following paragraph will be added regarding MWWD's sewer cleaning program:

In response to an Administrative Order from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and in an effort to reduce sewer spills and beach closures, the City of San Diego's Metropolitan Wastewater Department (MWWD) has adopted the Canyon Sewer Cleaning Program and the Long-term Canyon Sewer Maintenance Program (Program) to access, clean, and repair miles of sewer infrastructure located in canyons and other environmentally sensitive areas. On July 15, 2004, the City of San Diego Planning Commission approved a Coastal Development Permit No. 13506 and Site Development Permit No. 13507 for the Program. As part of this program, the sewer lines in the RCW were accessed and cleaned. A long term access plan for San Clemente Canyon has been reviewed and approved by the City's Development Services Department. The long-term access plan for Rose Creek is currently being prepared for submittal. These measures are designed to reduce the potential for sewer spills by providing for routine inspection and maintenance of the sewer mains in the watershed.

Proposed changes to Supplemental Information Section

Section 4.3.2 Potential Wetland Restoration Sites

Page 4-6, Potential Wetland Restoration Sites 3 & 5 – This section will be updated to reflect that these sites were installed in fall 2007, rather than fall 2005.

Page 4-7, Potential Wetland Restoration Sites - The description for Wetland Restoration Site 12 will be revised to clarify that it is located east of Genesee Avenue and was installed in the fall of 2007.

Page 4-8, Potential Wetland Restoration Site 16 – This section will be updated to clarify

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that this site was installed in the fall of 2007.

4.6.6 Storm Water Runoff Reduction Techniques

It will be noted that “smart” irrigation involves reducing over-irrigation and properly directing all irrigation flows onto landscaped areas to reduce dry weather runoff volume conveying pollutants to receiving waters.

Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment

An opportunity for the City of San Diego to help
guide improvements to the Rose Creek Watershed:
NR&C Committee June 20, 2007



Rose Creek Watershed Alliance

www.rosecreekwatershed.org

NR&C
6/20/07 #4

Community Support is Growing

Since last NR&C Meeting on 3/21/07:

- Mission Bay Planners (endorsed)
- Clairemont Planners (endorsed)
- Clairemont Town Council (endorsed)
- UC Planners (pending)
- Pacific Beach Planners (pending)

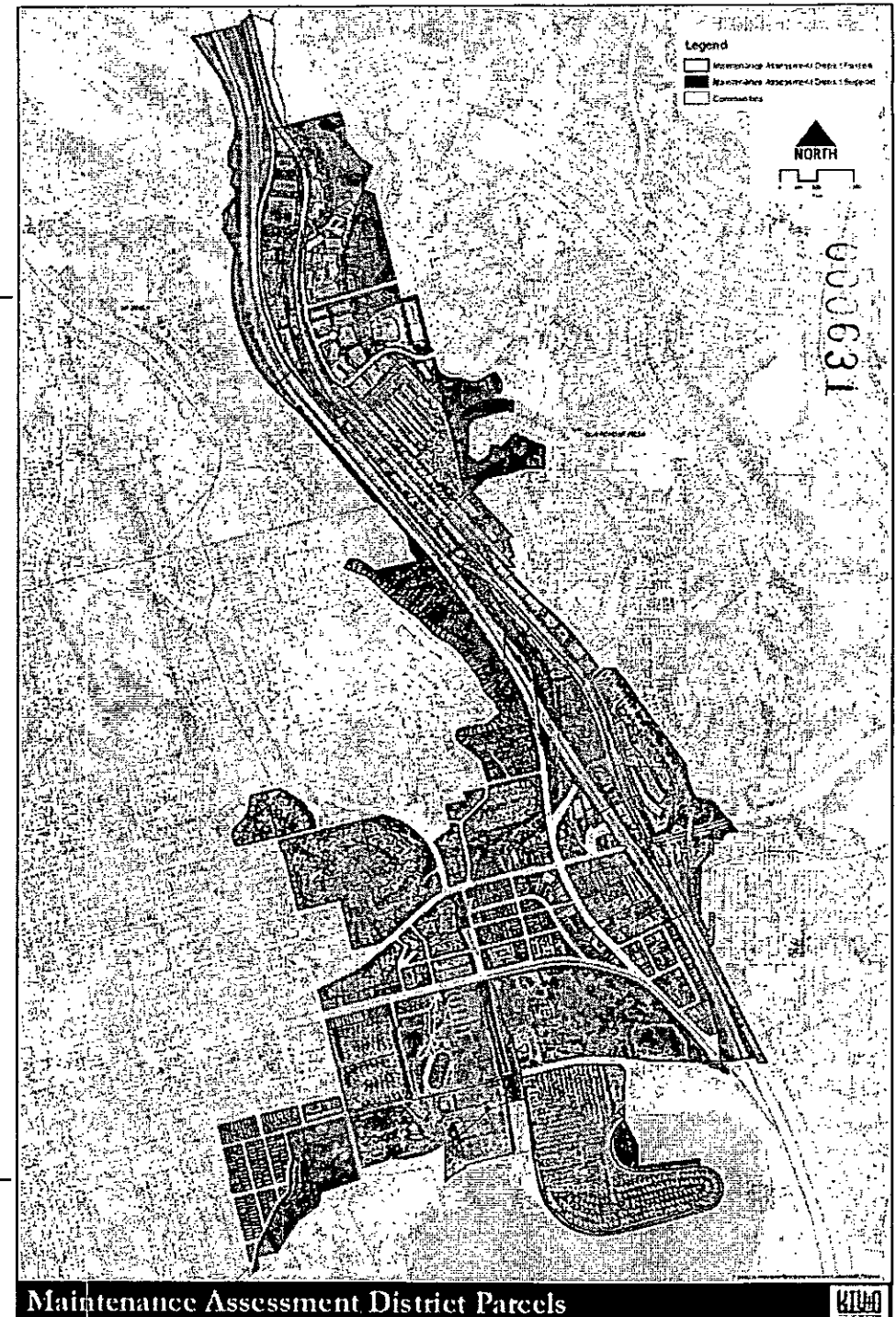


Maintenance Assessment District Survey Area: Update as of June 20, 2007

- 81% of the surveys are favorable regarding creating a district
- 14% of the surveys have been returned
- Follow up phone calls started



Rose Creek Watershed Alliance



Water Quality

Dry Weather Monitoring Report

- Monitoring at 24 stations – MOU with SDEW
- Data reveal exceedances for bacteria indicators, dissolved copper and dissolved zinc.
- Emerging issue: USEPA has banned certain pesticides; consumers are now purchasing synthetic pyrethroids instead. The synthetics are showing up in our watersheds. These are known to cause toxicity to insects in receiving waters; their potential impact on wildlife biodiversity is unknown.
- The Regional Water Quality Control Board has the report and will provide recommendations.





LOWER ROSE CREEK ENCAMPMENTS

1 mile

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Imagery by NASA

Google

Rose Creek Watershed: Priorities for Next Three Years

1. City Council approval of the Opportunities Assessment
2. City Council approval of a resolution allowing grant funds to be provided for the removal of invasive exotic plants in problem areas such as lower Rose Creek
3. City Council support to refine and permit a trail connecting the upper and lower watershed via city land in lower Rose Creek to improve public access, enhance policing and decrease crime
4. Completion of watershed-wide hydrology study
5. Begin planning for Mission Bay Wetlands Gateway
6. Continue advancement of maintenance assessment district



Paying for the Improvements

- Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP):
 - Recommended in Draft Plan
- Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB):
 - Grant for Invasive Exotics Removal
- Wetlands Recovery Project (WRP):
 - Request to add Hydrology, Mission Bay Wetlands Planning and Trail Planning to the Work Plan



Proposed NR&C Actions:

June 20, 2007

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1. Approve the Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment as a guidance document for City activities in the watershed and schedule it for City Council approval by September 4, 2007. Direct the City Attorney to draft a resolution of support for City Council approval.
2. Approve the draft resolution supporting the application by San Diego Earthworks for state grant funds to remove invasive exotic plants from the Rose Creek Watershed and schedule the resolution for City Council approval by September 4, 2007. Direct the City Attorney to revise the draft resolution into the appropriate format for City Council approval.



Rose Creek Watershed Alliance

CITY CLERKS OFFICE
SAN DIEGO, CA
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RECEIVED
www.rosecreekwatershed.org

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COMMITTEE ACTION SHEET

COUNCIL DOCKET OF

Oct 21, 2008

☐ Supplemental ☐ Adoption ☐ Consent ☒ Unanimous Consent Rules Committee Consultant Review

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O -

Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment

☒ Reviewed ☐ Initiated By NR&C On 3/21/07 Item No. 3

RECOMMENDATION TO:

1) Conceptually approve the Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment as a guidance document for City activities in the watershed; 2) schedule the Assessment to return to the committee after review through Development Services within 60 days; 3) form a subcommittee of District Two and District Six to work with the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance and the Mission Bay Committee, and others, to begin formulating a plan to create wetlands in Mission Bay proposed in the 1994 Mission Bay Plan for the mouth of Rose Creek, and authorize the subcommittee to send letters in support of funding for this effort; (CONT'D NEXT PAGE)

VOTED YEA: Frye, Faulconer, Maienschein, Hueso

VOTED NAY:

NOT PRESENT:

CITY CLERK: Please reference the following reports on the City Council Docket:

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL NO.

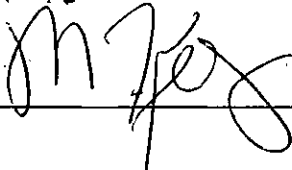
INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST NO.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE CONSULTANT ANALYSIS NO.

OTHER:

City of San Diego's Proposed City Policy Re Restoration of City-Owned Lands for Conservation Purposes; Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment; Councilmember Frye's February 28, 2007, memorandum

COUNCIL COMMITTEE CONSULTANT



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RECOMMENDATION TO (CONT'D):

4) direct the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance to provide for wide distribution of the draft restoration policy to City staff and interested parties for comment, and return with revisions to the Natural Resources and Culture Committee for future action; and 5) request the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance to report back to the Natural Resources and Culture Committee with the results of the Rose Creek Maintenance Assessment District Survey.

000639

CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
Draft- CITY POLICY**PROPOSED**

SUBJECT: Restoration of City-Owned Lands for Conservation Purposes

POLICY NO.: XXX

EFFECTIVE DATE: Proposed

BACKGROUND:

Over the past decade, the voters of California have approved a series of state bonds to improve water quality and quantity, to provide and improve parks and recreation and to enhance wildlife habitat. The result has been to encourage conservation activity throughout California. Most recently in 2006, California voters approved Proposition 84, a \$5.388 billion general obligation bond to improve water quality and supply, flood control and coastal protection. Of particular interest to the City of San Diego, \$27 million was included in Proposition 84 for the protection of San Diego Bay and adjacent watersheds, \$25 million was included for the University of California Natural Reserve System (which could benefit Mission Bay) and \$91 million was included for the San Diego region to address water quality issues. Because the City of San Diego is one of the largest property owners in the region, approval of the bonds has sparked interest by community, non-profit, academic and private organizations to restore and enhance City-owned lands using state and other non-City funds to achieve multiple goals including water quality improvements, restoration of wildlife habitat, wildfire prevention (via removal of non-native exotic plant species), improved public safety and general community enhancement.

There has been no clear City policy to define if and/or how City lands can be used for conservation purposes by non-City entities. One concern that has been raised by City staff is that if City lands are released for restoration with state or other non-City funding, they would no longer be available for the City to use to mitigate for its own activities. Some departments have cited a 1987 memo (attached) by then-Deputy City Manager Jack McGrory for this determination. That memo focused on a request by a developer to use City lands for mitigation which McGrory found inappropriate because sites would later be unavailable for City mitigation and releasing City land for this purpose might encourage developers to completely develop their properties irrespective of biological concerns. Other concerns have been raised over the conditions placed in some grants, such as a requirement to maintain the funded improvements for as much as 25 years.

The unfortunate result of this unclear policy is the City has turned away opportunities to complete restoration projects on City lands that could result in significant community and environmental enhancement and public safety improvements. Allowing restoration projects on City lands could also help the City meet other environmental obligations such as reducing storm water and other pollution discharges into our creeks and rivers as well as into Mission and San Diego Bay and area beaches, reducing the City's future liability under environmental protection laws as well as enhancing area recreational resources, including tourism. This interpretation has also eliminated the potential to improve and enhance the City's natural areas; improvements that would otherwise strengthen the City's commitment under the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and other wildlife protection laws. Instead, the City undertakes piecemeal project-by-project mitigation projects as its need arises. This approach all but eliminates the opportunity to restore City lands at scale, as part of a larger natural system

CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
Draft- CITY POLICY

such as a watershed, which is the recommended approach by conservation biologists where sustainable results are the goal.

PURPOSE:

It is the purpose of this policy to establish procedures to respond to requests from non-City entities regarding the use of City-owned lands for conservation purposes.

POLICY:

It is the City's policy that proactive conservation activities on City-owned lands could provide multiple benefits to City government and City and area residents. In particular, restoration of City-owned land for conservation purposes by the City or non-City entities can provide multiple beneficial public uses including, but not limited to, improved water quality and quantity, enhanced wildlife habitat, public recreational opportunities and public safety improvements.

REQUESTS FOR USE OF CITY-OWNED LAND FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES:

In the event that a State, Federal, non-profit, community or private organization proposes to restore or enhance habitat or provide for public recreation improvements on City property, the City shall evaluate, before determining whether to allow or reject the proposed use, whether the project meets at least X of the following conditions including Condition 5.:

1. The project is consistent with and will help implement City-adopted plans addressing natural resources or community concerns including but not limited to the MSCP, Park and Recreation Department Natural Resource Management and Park Plans, community plans, and area watershed plans or watershed assessments.
2. The project is consistent with and will help implement plans developed by the City's governmental partners including but not limited to the County of San Diego, the San Dieguito Joint Powers Authority, the County Water Authority and the San Diego River Conservancy.
3. The proposed project will provide benefits to the residents of the City of San Diego and County of San Diego and area visitors. Benefits include improvements to water quality and quantity, wildlife habitat, conservation research and education, public safety and low impact recreational use.
4. The City has determined the proposed project site will not be needed for City-required mitigation within the next six months. Such determination will be provided to the project proponent in writing, if requested. The City's written determination that the project site will be needed for mitigation within the next six months must include a description of the proposed City mitigation project.
5. The long and short-term operation and maintenance of the conservation project has been addressed such that the project will not place an undue burden on the City's near or long-term budget.

PROJECT REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Conservation proposals for City-owned lands shall be evaluated by affected City departments and will be subject to environmental, land use and design review, as required by law. Conservation proposals will be

Draft- CITY POLICY

reviewed by City departments for consistency with applicable Council-adopted plans and policies, as well as community review. Conservation projects meeting the conditions above will be provided a right of entry permit and other applicable information required to implement the project.

DEFINITIONS:**1. Conservation Purposes:**

Conservation purposes include an enhancement to a natural area, such as the creation of new habitat or improving public access to increase the public's enjoyment of a natural area.

Conservation purposes can also mean the restoration of a natural area, to return it to more natural conditions.

2. Low Impact Recreation Use:

Low impact recreational uses are human powered and may include walking, hiking, cycling, non-motorized boating or equestrian use; bird watching, fishing, star gazing or photography; and organized events such as interpretive tours, nature walks or educational programs.

HISTORY:

December 8, 1987: Memo from
Mike Stepner, Acting Planning
Department Director, to Jack
McGrory, Deputy City Manager,
regarding Private Mitigation
Projects on City Owned Open
Space

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CITY of
MEMO

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671		# of pages → 2	
To	Mary Ladina	From	Jeff Harkens
Co.		Co.	
Dept.		Phone #	53401
Fax #	66478	Fax #	

E NO.:

DATE : December 8, 1987

TO : Mike Stepner, Acting Planning Department Director

FROM : Jack McGrory, Deputy City Manager

SUBJECT: Private Mitigation Projects on City Owned Open Space

Recently, the developer of the Villages of Five Creeks (TM-86-0994) contacted the Park and Recreation Department for approval of development plans for a riparian vegetation mitigation site to be located on City owned open space. The purpose of this mitigation site was to compensate for 1.8 acres of riparian vegetation which will be destroyed during the development of the Villages of Five Creeks.

On a previous occasion, a developer requested permission from the Park and Recreation Department to use a portion of the Los Pinos Canyon Preserve as a mitigation site for their private development. We advised the developer that the use of City owned open space as a mitigation site for private development is an inappropriate use and we would not approve their concept.

The reasons for our opposition to this concept are:

- 1) Mitigation sites will be required for City-initiated projects in the future, so it seems prudent to retain possible mitigation sites for City use and not private development.
- 2) If City owned open space is allowed to be used as private mitigation sites, it would be reasonable to assume all developers would request this approach and the potential available sites for mitigation would be depleted.
- 3) Allowing private mitigation sites on City owned open space could encourage developers to completely develop their property, irrespective of biological concerns, with the knowledge that the mitigation required for their development would use City property.
- 4) It is our position that the use of City owned land for private gain is not appropriate.

In regards to the Villages of Five Creeks project, mitigation at the City site was a directive of the EIR. Also, the City land was acquired through a prior map filed on the property. For these reasons, we have reluctantly agreed to this mitigation if they agree to assume maintenance responsibilities. We will allow them to develop their mitigation site provided they enter into an agreement which states they will maintain the site as long as the level of maintenance required is greater than normal City-provided maintenance. We will require a letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Army Corps of Engineers stating that the site has stabilized and the normal City maintenance will be adequate before terminating the maintenance agreement.

000644

December 8, 1987

Page 2

To summarize, the use of City owned open space as a mitigation site for private development is not an appropriate use of open space and it is the Manager's policy not to accept this approach. This approach should not be proposed in the future.

Jack McGrory
Jack McGrory
Deputy City Manager

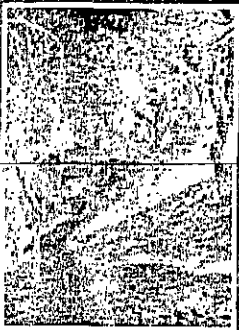
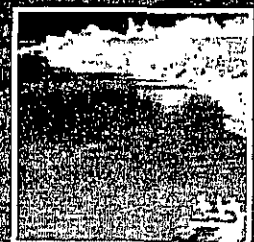
JM/JW/map

cc: George Loveland
Dave Twomey
Nancy Acevedo
Jerry Williams ✓

RECEIVED
08 OCT -9 PM 3:28
CITY CLERKS OFFICE
SAN DIEGO, CA

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The

Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment



Rose Creek
Watershed
Alliance



*Available for viewing in the
Office of the City Clerk
Cab 2nd floor*

**KTU+A
2005**



COUNCILMEMBER DONNA FRYE
City of San Diego
Sixth District

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 28, 2007
TO: Mayor Jerry Sanders
FROM: Councilmember Donna Frye
SUBJECT: Appeal of NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit

I am in receipt of your February 27, 2007 memorandum regarding the Appeal of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Stormwater Permit (Permit). I was very surprised to learn this Monday that the "City" had done so, without any discussion of this issue with the City Council.

You state in your memo that because of a February 23rd filing deadline, and in consultation with the City Attorney's Office, you evaluated the available options and decided to appeal the Permit. I would respectfully suggest that in the future, you consider seeking the consultation of not only the City Attorney, but also the City Council and members of the public.

It is my understanding that the courts have looked more than once at the issue you raised, and each time the results were the same: virtually anything required as part of the Permit is within the purview of the Clean Water Act and does not exceed federal law. In other words, the lawsuits failed.

Perhaps you are unaware, but in the recent past, the City Council has taken the position that the better approach is to work as a partner with the RWQCB to achieve the Permit standards, rather than joining the unsuccessful appeals by the Building Industry Association and others.

Additionally, by joining the appeal petition, the City erodes the collaborative partnership we have established with the environmental community and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

Finally, I will be requesting that this issue be docketed for a public hearing so that these issues can be discussed and resolved. It is my hope that once you hear all the facts, you will agree that appealing the Permit is not in the best interest of the public.

000648

Cc: City Councilmembers
City Attorney, Michael Aguirre
IBA, Andrea Tevlin
John Robertus and Phil Hammer, RWQCB

RECEIVED

08 OCT -9 PM 3:28

CITY CLERKS OFFICE
SAN DIEGO, CA



DATE: March 25, 2008

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Ann Van Leer for the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance

SUBJECT: Recommended Amendments to the Draft Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment

The Rose Creek Watershed Alliance (Alliance) presents these recommended amendments to the draft Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment (Assessment) for your consideration and adoption. The Alliance is a 13-member stakeholders group formed to help guide the Assessment. Alliance members include public and non-profit organizations working to improve the quality of life in the Rose Creek Watershed, which includes most of MCAS Miramar and parts of Clairemont, University City, Pacific Beach and Mission Bay.

Background:

The Rose Creek Watershed contains great natural beauty, recreational opportunities and biological diversity. Unfortunately, the watershed suffers from many of the same ills as other watersheds at the edge where wild lands meet urban development. Invasive non-native species have overrun many areas, and urban problems such as crime and vagrancy are acute in the lower watershed. While the overall health of the watershed is better than many urban-wildland watersheds in Southern California, portions of lower Rose Creek, in particular, are unhealthy, unsafe and a detriment to water quality in Mission Bay and the ocean. Approving the Assessment, and working to implement its recommendations, will help bring about the changes this watershed needs.

This Assessment includes recommendations to enhance the watershed, to make it a safer and healthier place for residents and visitors alike. We hope the Assessment will engage and inform the public, guide volunteers and professionals, and build policy level support within the appropriate public and private agencies to enhance and preserve the watershed.

Appreciation:

We are grateful for the support, advice and guidance we have received from Councilmembers and City staff especially Councilmembers Frye, Peters and Faulconer, Park and Recreation Department staff, Environmental Services Department staff and Northern Division Police Chief Boyd Long and his staff especially officers Conti and Vinson and the officers of the HOT team.

We know there are many pressing concerns before the City and are appreciative of the time City staff took to review the Assessment and make comments; the suggestions were helpful and we have incorporated them into these amendments. On approval of the Assessment by the full City Council, an updated final Assessment will be created that will be made available to the City and posted at www.rosecreekwatershed.org. Our hope is the City and other entities, private and public, will use the Assessment as a guidance document for activities in the Rose Creek Watershed.

Our suggested amendments are organized below into two attachments that follow: Policy Amendment and Minor Amendments. Thank you for your support of the Rose Creek Watershed.

Sincerely,

Convener for San Diego Earthworks

Friends of Rose Creek

Friends of Rose Canyon

Marian Bear Natural Park Committee

Rose Canyon Recreational Council

Clairemont Town Council

San Diego Audubon

Clairemont Mesa Planning Group

Nobel Recreation Council

Friends of Stevenson Canyon

San Diego County Bicycle Coalition

Discover Pacific Beach

Mission Bay Park Committee

ATTACHMENT 1
ROSE CREEK WATERSHED OPPORTUNITIES ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED POLICY AMENDMENT

Discussion:

The draft Assessment includes a recommendation, 2.1, to encourage pro-active conservation in the watershed including the creation of a Conservation Bank to restore watershed lands proactively and at watershed scale. Conversations with City staff regarding this item have illuminated concerns that the City should first revise its policies regarding the restoration of City-owned lands, especially the impact of restoration on the City's future needs for mitigation. We understand the City's concerns and are in agreement that these are important policy questions that require additional consideration.

The goal of this recommendation was to encourage discussion and, we hoped, action on large scale restoration of City and other watershed lands including urban canyons like Rose and San Clemente. That policy discussion has begun and its resolution will have potentially wide positive implications for other City-owned lands in all watersheds and for enhancement of the MSCP. This discussion is better held with consideration of all City lands and accordingly, we recommend removal of the current text in Section 2.1.2 and replacement with the following text. In addition, the Supplemental text included in 4.2 will be updated to reflect this additional revised language.

New Section 2.1, Recommendations for Pro-active Conservation in the Rose Creek Watershed

- Work with the City of San Diego and other public agencies to implement policies that will encourage the comprehensive restoration and management of watershed lands for conservation and other public purposes.
- Pilot projects in the Rose Creek Watershed that will result in the comprehensive restoration and management of watershed lands.
- Assign one City department lead responsibility for coordinating all City activities in the Rose Creek Watershed.

Most of the undeveloped land that is the focus of the Assessment is publicly owned. The largest land owner in the watershed is the military which owns MCAS Miramar. The use of that land is governed by the military; the natural resources of the base are overseen by the base's Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP). The primary purpose of the INRMP is to integrate Marine Corps Air Station Miramar's land use needs, in support of the military mission, with the management and conservation of natural resources. The plan covers the entire base and the military is currently pro-actively comprehensively managing the natural resources of the base.

In contrast, there are multiple public agencies, with various missions, that own the watershed lands outside MCAS Miramar. For those undeveloped watershed land areas



outside MCAS Miramar, the largest property owner is the City of San Diego. The City's ownership and responsibilities to the watershed are split between multiple departments and divisions including Park and Recreation, Streets, Storm Water Pollution Prevention and Metropolitan Wastewater. Park and Recreation owns and manages the natural open space parks in the upper watershed including San Clemente (Marian Bear) and Rose and Mission Bay Park in the lower watershed. Streets Division owns and manages the flood control corridor that ties the upper watershed's open space parks to Mission Bay Park. The City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Division has responsibilities for implementation of the Municipal Storm Water Permit and enforcement of laws to prevent and prohibit runoff from storm water from polluting creeks, bays and the ocean, including the Rose and San Clemente creeks and Mission Bay. The Metropolitan Wastewater Department has responsibilities for the wastewater distribution system that uses the Rose Creek Watershed to transport wastewater for treatment and disposal.

Two other public agencies own important watershed lands. Caltrans owns the freeway rights of ways for highways 5 and 52. Also, North County Transit District (NCTD) owns the railroad line corridor and rights of way that largely parallels Rose Creek through the watershed.

In contrast to MCAS Miramar, which is actively and comprehensively managing its ownership of natural lands in the watershed, other than City Park and Recreation lands, the other public lands in the Rose Creek Watershed are managed, if at all, in isolation. In some parts of the watershed, such as the City, Caltrans and NCTD-owned section that connects the two upper watershed open space parks with Mission Bay Park; there is a suite of public problems including infestations of non-native invasive species which are increasing fire risk, *reducing* flood carrying capacity and reducing habitat for native species. Those same areas have included, at times, illegal encampments leading to water pollution, trash accumulation, graffiti and use of the creek as a base for illegal activities elsewhere. A more comprehensive approach to managing these areas is required.

New Section 2.1.1 Implement Policies to Encourage Comprehensive Restoration and Management of Watershed Lands

Unfortunately, the problems of the Rose Creek Watershed are not unique. Wherever responsibilities are split between multiple owners and multiple departments and divisions, comprehensive natural resources management on a watershed scale is unlikely *unless* actions are taken to make watershed protection a priority. The first action that should occur is the development of policies to encourage comprehensive management of watershed resources, both MSCP and non-MSCP lands, in watersheds like Rose Creek. Those policies should encourage intra-governmental cooperation between City of San Diego divisions and departments and inter-governmental cooperation between the City of San Diego, Caltrans, NCTD and other watershed property owners. Such policies should encourage partnerships with other governmental and non-governmental agencies to help extend public agency resources which have been reduced by funding cutbacks in recent years.

New Section 2.1.2 Pilot Projects in the Rose Creek Watershed that Demonstrate



Progress towards the Comprehensive Restoration and Management of Watershed Lands

The Rose Creek Watershed is a perfect venue to pilot projects to encourage new approaches to comprehensive restoration and management of urban watersheds. Relatively small at 37 square miles, a large part of the watershed, on MCAS Miramar, is already under active management. Remaining undeveloped areas are largely in public ownership with the two main open space canyons owned by Park and Recreation, included in the MSCP. While problems exist, especially in the lower watershed, they could be addressed with focused attention by the governmental entities and public and private partners to great benefit, both for the local public in enhanced water quality, reduced fire risk and decreased crime and for the wildlife that live in the watershed. Additional benefactors are the 15 million plus people that visit Mission Bay each year and swim in its waters.

New Section 2.1.3 Assign One City department Lead Responsibility for Coordinating City activities in the Rose Creek Watershed; Comprehensively Manage Public Lands

The function of the watershed does not change when you leave one ownership and enter another but currently the on-the-ground-physical condition of the watershed does change because of inconsistent management practices. Better coordination between City of San Diego departments and divisions and other watershed property owners such as Caltrans and NCTD, and private owners, could result in more comprehensive and effective implementation of governmental plans and programs in the Rose Creek Watershed. One coordinating department, and Park and Recreation is suggested, would be able to help facilitate more strategic and comprehensive actions in the watershed.

**ATTACHMENT 2
ROSE CREEK WATERSHED OPPORTUNITIES ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED MINOR AMENDMENTS**

Proposed Changes to Recommendations' Section

Introduction to Action Recommendations

It will be noted that all City departments with management responsibilities within the Rose Creek Watershed have budget and staffing issues.

2.2.1 Recommendations for Enhancing the Connection to Mission Bay

It will be noted that the area referenced in this section are currently under a lease agreement that does not terminate until 2017. It will also be noted that the west to east bicycle and pedestrian connection across the north end of the bay is critical to public safety and the enhancement of the Mission Bay visitor experience. Currently trail users must backtrack up to Grand Avenue to cross Rose creek. Creating a trail connection from the west end of Pacific Beach Drive in the north end of the bay, compatible with other watershed and Mission Bay improvements, is an essential component of enhancing the connection of the watershed to Mission Bay.

2.2.5 Recommendations for Land Management and Ownership

It will be noted that the City has approved MSCP land acquisition areas and these areas would have to be added to the list if they contribute to the MHPA preserve.

2.2.7 Recommendations for Environmental Education

It will be noted that it's important to coordinate environmental education efforts, including those of the City (which can include multiple departments) and those of other municipalities in the region.

2.3.2 Recommendations to Assess Potential Effects on Cultural Resources by other actions

It will be noted that city departments are required to conduct cultural resource assessments for habitat restoration projects. If the project has the potential to impact cultural resources, they are required to mitigate those potential impacts through monitoring, testing, or data recovery as necessary. It will also be noted that any signs on City Park land must be approved by the Park and Recreation Department.

2.4 Recommendations for Public Safety

Recommendation 2.4.1.1 will be updated to include the brush management section of the open space division, which does do on the ground brush management of City owned lands within open space. The last sentence of the second paragraph should be updated to

read "Brush management on private property, shall be performed consistent with City regulations and standards."

2.5 Recommendations for Recreational Trails

It will be noted that new trails should be analyzed within the Trails Master Plan and are subject to staffing and funds for implementation and management, maintenance and enforcement.

2.5.2 Recommendations for Improving Access within the Open Space System

It will be noted that MWWD's Long Term Access Plan for San Clemente Canyon has been reviewed and approved. The plan for Rose Canyon is currently being prepared.

2.5.3 Recommendations for Creating Regional Recreation Connections

It will be noted that the Boat and Ski Club lease agreement referenced in 2.5.3.C.2 is on holdover.

It will be noted that the area referenced in section 2.5.3.C.2 is listed in the Mission Bay Master Plan Update as the De Anza Special Study Area and the Master Plan Update suggests that the area might be used as a new location for an RV and campground.

It will be noted that use of pervious materials for trail improvements, where feasible, will allow for infiltration of runoff into the ground and reduce impervious surface in the watershed.

2.6.1 Recommendations for Hydrology and Hydraulics

It will be noted that this work will be coordinated with similar efforts being implemented by the municipalities in the region per the Municipal Storm Water Permit (i.e., Hydromodification Management Plan).

Other Sections

Proposed changes to Watershed Overview Section

3.3.6 Impervious Surfaces

It will be noted that infiltration projects (which the City is currently in the process of piloting) throughout the watershed, where feasible, may help meet water quality goals.

3.5.2.6 Park Accessibility

It will be noted that the official use of University City HS can not be endorsed by the City as a designated parking lot for the canyon without a joint use agreement.

3.8.1 Sewer Overflows

Page 3-54, 3.8.1 – Sewer Overflows – In addition to the information provided on the number of sewer flows though 1997, the following paragraph will be added regarding MWWD’s sewer cleaning program:

In response to an Administrative Order from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and in an effort to reduce sewer spills and beach closures, the City of San Diego's Metropolitan Wastewater Department (MWWD) has adopted the Canyon Sewer Cleaning Program and the Long-term Canyon Sewer Maintenance Program (Program) to access, clean, and repair miles of sewer infrastructure located in canyons and other environmentally sensitive areas. On July 15, 2004, the City of San Diego Planning Commission approved a Coastal Development Permit No. 13506 and Site Development Permit No. 13507 for the Program. As part of this program, the sewer lines in the RCW were accessed and cleaned. A long term access plan for San Clemente Canyon has been reviewed and approved by the City's Development Services Department. The long-term access plan for Rose Creek is currently being prepared for submittal. These measures are designed to reduce the potential for sewer spills by providing for routine inspection and maintenance of the sewer mains in the watershed.

Proposed changes to Supplemental Information Section

Section 4.3.2 Potential Wetland Restoration Sites

Page 4-6, Potential Wetland Restoration Sites 3 & 5 – This section will be updated to reflect that these sites were installed in fall 2007, rather than fall 2005.

Page 4-7, Potential Wetland Restoration Sites - The description for Wetland Restoration Site 12 will be revised to clarify that it is located east of Genesee Avenue and was installed in the fall of 2007.

Page 4-8, Potential Wetland Restoration Site 16 – This section will be updated to clarify that this site was installed in the fall of 2007.

4.6.6 Storm Water Runoff Reduction Techniques

It will be noted that “smart” irrigation involves reducing over-irrigation and properly directing all irrigation flows onto landscaped areas to reduce dry weather runoff volume conveying pollutants to receiving waters.

0000659

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION
CITY OF SAN DIEGO1. CERTIFICATE NUMBER
(FOR AUDITOR'S USE)

N/A

105
10/21

TO: CITY ATTORNEY

2. FROM (ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT):
Park and Recreation3. DATE:
4/4/08

4. SUBJECT:

Accepting the Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment

5. PRIMARY CONTACT (NAME, PHONE, & MAIL STA.)

Joshua Garcia, 533-6713, 804A

6. SECONDARY CONTACT (NAME, PHONE, & MAIL STA.)

Jan-Nicole Edgell, 685-1361, 804A

7. CHECK BOX IF REPORT TO COUNCIL IS ATTACHED



8. COMPLETE FOR ACCOUNTING PURPOSES

FUND	N/A				9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / ESTIMATED COST: No fiscal impacts are anticipated with this action, the assessment is a guidance document for overall enhancement of the Rose Creek Watershed.
DEPT.					
ORGANIZATION					
OBJECT ACCOUNT					
JOB ORDER					
C.I.P. NUMBER					
AMOUNT					

10. ROUTING AND APPROVALS

ROUTE (#)	APPROVING AUTHORITY	APPROVAL SIGNATURE	DATE SIGNED	ROUTE (#)	APPROVING AUTHORITY	APPROVAL SIGNATURE	DATE SIGNED
1	ORIG. DEPT	<i>[Signature]</i>	4-10-08	9	DEPUTY CHIEF	<i>[Signature]</i>	6/9/08
2	EAS (DSD)	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/25/08	10	COO	<i>[Signature]</i>	6/12/08
3	EOCP	<i>[Signature]</i>	5/6/08	11	CITY ATTORNEY	<i>[Signature]</i>	7/30/08
4	GENERAL SVCS (STREETS DIV.)	<i>[Signature]</i>	5/22/08		ORIG. DEPT	<i>[Signature]</i>	8/22/08
5	DOCKET LIAISON	<i>[Signature]</i>	5/23/08				
6	FINANCIAL MGMT	<i>[Signature]</i>	6/2/08				
7	AUDITOR	<i>[Signature]</i>	6/8/08				
8	CFO	<i>[Signature]</i>	6/6/08				

DOCKET COORD: _____ COUNCIL LIAISON: *[Signature]* 6/23/08

COUNCIL PRESIDENT *[Signature]* ☐ SPOB ☒ CONSENT ☐ ADOPTION
☐ REFER TO: _____ COUNCIL DATE: 10/21/08

11. PREPARATION OF:

☒ RESOLUTIONS☐ ORDINANCE(S)☐ AGREEMENT(S)☐ DEED(S)

Accepting the Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment report as information for planning activities related to portions of the Rose Creek watershed within The City of San Diego's land use jurisdiction.

11A. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Approve the Resolution(s).

12. SPECIAL CONDITIONS (REFER TO A.R. 3.20 FOR INFORMATION ON COMPLETING THIS SECTION.)

COUNCIL DISTRICT(S): 2 & 6

COMMUNITY AREA(S): Clairemont Mesa, University, & Pacific Beach

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: THIS ACTIVITY IS NOT A "PROJECT" AND IS THEREFORE NOT SUBJECT TO CEQA PURSUANT TO STATE CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION §15060(C)(3).

ATTACHMENTS: Executive Summary Sheet

HOUSING IMPACT: N/A

CITY CLERK INSTRUCTIONS: Once copies of resolutions are available, please contact Joshua Garcia 619-533-6713.

000661

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

DATE ISSUED:
ATTENTION: Council President and City Council
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Park and Recreation
SUBJECT: Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment
COUNCIL DISTRICT(S): 2 & 6
CONTACT/PHONE NUMBER:

REQUESTED ACTION:

Please see and approve the attached resolution accepting the report.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the resolution to accept the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Rose Creek Watershed is a 36-square mile area that extends from the MCAS Miramar, east of I-15, through San Clemente and Rose canyons and south along the east side of I-5, ultimately draining into Mission Bay Park via Pacific Beach. The watershed contains recreational opportunities, biological diversity and aesthetic beauty.

Unfortunately, the watershed faces many difficult challenges, as do other watersheds at the edge wildlands/urban interfaces. Non-native invasive species have spread from private property and/or other up-stream sources and overrun many native areas. Urban problems such as crime and vagrancy are acute in the lower watershed. While the overall health of the watershed is better than many urban-wildland watersheds in Southern California, portions of lower Rose Creek, in particular, are unhealthy, unsafe and a detriment to water quality in Mission Bay and the ocean.

This Assessment includes recommendations to enhance the watershed, to make it a safer and healthier place for residents and visitors alike. It is the Rose Canyon Watershed Alliance's (Alliance) hope that the Assessment will engage and inform the public, guide volunteers and professionals, and build policy level support within the appropriate public and private agencies to enhance and preserve the watershed.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

PREVIOUS COUNCIL and/or COMMITTEE ACTION:

Approved by Natural Resources and Culture Committee 3/21/07 and 6/20/07.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS:

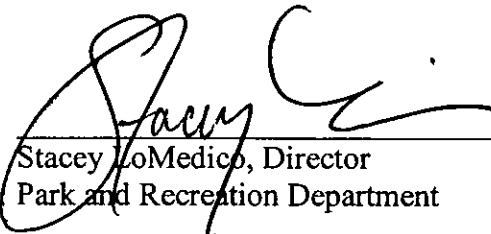
The Alliance is a 13-member stakeholders group formed to help guide the Assessment. Alliance members include public and non-profit organizations working to improve the quality of life in the Rose Creek Watershed. Three public workshops have been held and the Alliance has

000662

received input from various City of San Diego departments with interest in the Rose Creek Watershed.

STAKEHOLDERS AND PROJECTED IMPACTS:

The Alliance is supportive of this action. No environmental impacts would be associated with the adopting the plan as informational and guidance for future activities within the watershed.



Stacey LoMedico, Director
Park and Recreation Department

Elmer L. Heap
Deputy Chief of Community Services

000663

RESOLUTION NUMBER R-_____

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN
DIEGO ACCEPTING THE ROSE CREEK WATERSHED
OPPORTUNITIES ASSESSMENT.

WHEREAS, the Rose Creek Watershed [Watershed] is a 36-square mile area that extends from the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar sixteen miles along San Clemente and Rose canyons and south along the east side of the I-15 freeway, ultimately draining into Mission Bay Park in Pacific Beach; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed contains recreational opportunities, biological diversity and aesthetic beauty; and

WHEREAS, the Watershed faces many difficult challenges, including the spread of non-native invasive species, unhealthy and unsafe water quality, and acute crime and vagrancy; and

WHEREAS, the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance [Alliance], a thirteen-member stakeholders group formed to improve the quality of life in the Watershed, has prepared a draft Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment and recommended amendments thereto [collectively, the Assessment], and


WHEREAS, the Assessment will inform the public, guide volunteers and professionals, and build policy level support within the appropriate public and private agencies to enhance and preserve the Watershed; NOW, THEREFORE;

000664

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council accepts the Assessment as information for planning activities related to portions of the Watershed within the City of San Diego's land use jurisdiction;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of San Diego finds that this activity is not a project and is therefore not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA] pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3).

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By 
Kimberly Ann Davies
Deputy City Attorney

KAD:mm
08/15/08
Or.Dept: Park & Rec.
R-2009-164
MMS: 6654

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of _____.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk

By _____
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

105
10/21

From: CLK City Clerk
ent: Thursday, October 16, 2008 8:56 AM
to: Atkins, Councilmember; Faucett, Aimee; Faulconer, Council Member Kevin; Frye, Donna; Hueso, Councilmember Ben; Lujan, Magdalena; Madaffer, Councilmember Jim; Maienschein, Councilmember; Peters, Councilmember Scott; Pickens, Sonia; Soria, Patricia; Vetter, Gary; Yepiz, Lauren; Young, Anthony
Subject: FW: City Council Meeting Agenda Comment Form

-----Original Message-----

From: nsuserid@ada.sannet.gov [mailto:nsuserid@ada.sannet.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2008 6:38 PM
To: CLK City Clerk
Subject: City Council Meeting Agenda Comment Form

San Diego City Council Meeting Agenda Comment Form Submitted on Wednesday, October 15, 2008 at 18:37:43

Name: Ann Van Leer

Email: ann@landconserve.com

Address: 4079 Governor Drive #330

City: San Diego

State: CA

Zip: 92122

Area Code: 858

Telephone: 452-2027

Source: San Diego City Council Meeting Agenda Comment Form at
<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk/officialdocs/docketcomment.shtml>

Agenda Item: Item 105, October 21, 2008

Comments: Your approval of the Assessment will help support enhancements to public health and safety in this watershed covering parts of districts 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7. Your support will also advance recreational opportunities including trails that will improve public access to the beach and Mission Bay.

This project began in 2004 as a cooperative partnership between San Diego Earthworks, the California Coastal Conservancy and the City of San Diego. We have since added many additional partners, including the County of San Diego, MCAS Miramar, the San Diego Natural History Museum, SANDAG, the San Diego Foundation and others.

As project manager of the Assessment since 2004, I am very appreciative of the suggestions of our partners and the many stakeholders who have participated in its drafting including the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance. Recommendations from stakeholders received during the planning process are incorporated in the draft.

Additionally, we worked with City staff to make improvements to the draft; those suggested improvements are expressed in a letter from the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance, dated March 10, 2008, and included in your backup. With Council approval of this item, we will incorporate the improvements into the final Assessment.

Thank you for your consideration!

WWW.SCMV.COM
619.685.3003
619.685.3100 FAX

2100 SYMPHONY TOWERS
750 B STREET
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101

105
10/21

SELTZER | CAPLAN | McMAHON | VITEK
A LAW CORPORATION

JAMES R. DAWE, ESQ.

dawe@scmv.com
619.685.3060
619.702.6807 FAX

October 20, 2008

City Council
City of San Diego
202 C Street, 2nd Floor
San Diego, California 92101

VIA FACSIMILE

Re: Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment
October 21, 2008 – Item 105

Honorable President Peters and Members of the Council:

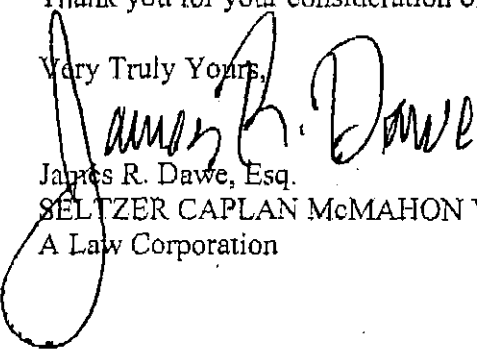
Our firm represents Campland, LLC in connection with its operation of the Campland Leasehold in Mission Bay Park.

For more than a decade, Campland, LLC has been encouraging the City of San Diego to take aggressive watershed protection actions in the Rose Creek Watershed. Agenda Item 105 appears to be starting the planning process for such action.

We request that Campland, LLC be given the opportunity to participate in any and all processes established in connection with the Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment Report. Campland, LLC looks forward to working with the City to assure continued recreational camping opportunities on Mission Bay. According to our client's surveys, over 30,000 City of San Diego households enjoy such opportunities. As the City proceeds with the planning for Rose Creek, it must proactively address the recreational camping needs.

Thank you for your consideration of the above.

Very Truly Yours,


James R. Dawe, Esq.
SELTZER CAPLAN McMAHON VITEK
A Law Corporation